

LINCOLN CHAFEE U.S. SENATOR RHODE ISLAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, April 26, 2004 CONTACT: Stephen Hourahan 202 224-6167

CHAFEE ANNOUNCES GRANT FOR HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee announced today that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has notified him that the Rhode Island Department of Health, Office of HIV/AIDS will receive a \$1,270,652 grant from the National Center for HIV Prevention. The money will be used to fund a series of community-based grants for programs directly targeting high-risk populations regarding the contraction of HIV/AIDS.

"HIV/AIDS prevention programs at the community level is an effective method for educating Rhode Islanders about the steps that should be taken to stay safe." Senator Chafee said. "I am pleased that this money is being made available to implement these programs and keep Rhode Islanders aware of the dangers of HIV/AIDS and the methods of contracting it." he continued.

The Rhode Island Community Planning Group has determined the program's high-risk population for HIV Prevention. In order of priority, the high-risk groups include:

- Men engaging in unprotected sex with men and/or women.
- Injecting drug users, other substance users and their partners.
- Women engaging in unprotected sex with men.
- Young adults engaging in unprotected sex, as well as alcohol and drug use.
- People who don't know their HIV status/HIV positive people who are not in treatment.

The prevention program is part of a HIV prevention cooperative agreement in conjunction with the Center for Disease Control.